ABC NEWS Live Coverage of The Assassination of President Kennedy Part 2 (2:30 P.M - 3:30 P.M)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5Kz7-L2W78 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5Kz7-L2W78)

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From The Afternoon of Friday November 22nd 1963,ABC News Coverage of The Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy.

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the president too mrs lyndon johnson said after a visit to the emergency operating room that the vice president is fine she was taken back into another first floor room where johnson originally had gone ask if her husband also had been wounded she shook her head negatively she said he had not been secret service man pushed reporters away and permitted no more questions of course you can imagine the confusion the emergency circumstances the confusion that must exist around that hospital now we understand that we are ready to switch to washington for a report from there come in washington we're ready to switch to washington for a direct report from there but for some reason uh under the circumstances we seem to be having a little difficulty with that which i'm sure will be cleared up in a moment come in washington we were told from our control room here in new york that washington was standing uh by weather report but we've been unable to reach them at this moment i'm sure that in a matter of seconds perhaps in another minute or two we will be able to reach washington did you have something else i just thought we might recap for those who probably heard about it just a few moments ago i think that's a good idea it happened that the president and the governor connolly was shot in their motorcade as it entered another pass while going through a downtown dallas and when the shots were first fired there were thought to be three that uh later was confirmed there were four shots the president fell over face down governor connolly apparently was wounded in the body he fell forward mrs kennedy uh leaped up and cried oh no and tried to uh hold the

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cried oh no and tried to uh hold the president's head up the blood was seen on the president's head and uh a secret service agent apparently was shot by one of the assassins bullets as well and of course you haven't from there on thanks very much ed uh in case you did join us late or had not heard the news those are the facts so far as we know them up to this time i'm receiving word now we have received word that two priests who were with the president have reported that the president is dead now here here again we must we must uh emphasize that this is not an official announcement it has not been announced by the white house or anyone in the official party traveling with the president but the associated press quotes two priests who were with the president stating that he died from the bullet wounds or wound inflicted upon him by a sniper we have to assume that it was a sniper who fired from a considerable distance the president was given the last rights of the roman catholic church at about one o'clock at dallas time and at that time the first reports were that the president was still alive however this latest word says that uh the priests were under the impression the president was dead at the time the last rites were administered now we of course are going to keep the air here and we will bring you whatever reports come in as they come in from the wire services from our reporters on the scene and from washington and dallas directly we will be going to washington before long for a direct report from there ed silverman is sitting here beside me he has a telephone to dallas and is in touch with our

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to dallas and is in touch with our reporter bill lord who is at the hospital and has been uh in touch with people at the scene ed is there anything new there no there is nothing uh ron the bill left the phone to check with the sheriff's office he did confirm the death of the secret service agent the fact that at least a dozen eyewitnesses have been brought in for interrogation and the fact that one suspect has been picked up he is in there being questioned now there have been no details everyone is being very close-mouthed in the sheriff's office and of course there's a great deal of rumor uh bill mentioned a great deal of roma as is understandable at a time like this so we would hesitate to pass any of that along and stick strictly with the facts as we get them thank you ed silverman now we're going to try again to switch to washington and edward p morgan you are seeing it repeat morgan but at the moment unfortunately you are not hearing him we'll get that problem straightened out shortly we have a report that senator edward kennedy the president's brother was presiding over the senate today when word came that the president had been shot an aide informed him and he rushed out of the senate chamber attorney general robert kennedy the president's younger brother and closest advisor was having lunch at home when the word came of the shooting is personal the president's personal secretary said the attorney general was remaining at the kennedy hickory hill estate in mclean virginia uh awaiting further work newsman carried the word to house speaker john mccormick at a luncheon table in washington he said this is terrible all i can say is that it is a terrible thing and all americans of all religions and faiths are praying for the president and governor connolly

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governor connolly now we're receiving a uh a report here the united press reports the united press reports that the president died at 135 that would be 1 35 eastern time i presume that would have been about 1 35 central time that was only about two minutes ago now that again is a a united press international uh report it is not attributed we do not know uh whether that is an official announcement by anyone in the kennedy party we have another photograph of mr kennedy in the motorcade which was taken minutes before the assassination attempt this is a still photograph of the president in the motorcade you see he's riding in an open car and we're informed at the time that the shot struck him he was standing in that car unfortunately apparently making a good target for the sniper who was hiding somewhere and may have fired from a considerable distance probably with a high-powered rifle considering the accuracy with which he shot and also the fact that one of the secret service agents was killed the secret service agents normally walk directly beside the car on either side we do not see any in this photograph but usually uh two or three secret service agents will walk on either side of the car so that they are there to spot any anyone who looks like a troublemaker government sources now confirm we have this from washington government sources now confirm that president kennedy is dead so that apparently is the final word and an incredible event that i am sure no one except

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that i am sure no one except the assassin himself could have possibly imagined would occur on this day the president and mrs kennedy had gone to texas in a speaking tour which was to be in effect more or less the beginning of the president's 1964 campaign it was a trip which in which it had been hoped he would bring the various dissident forces in the democratic party in texas together and heal up some of the political wounds that had existed there instead it ended in tragedy with the president's death we have no word as to the condition of governor connolly although of texas who was also shot although evidently he was not as seriously wounded and apparently is still alive the president was shot in the head ed silverman do you have further word there is a report from dallas one of the tv newsmen covering the motorcade says that he looked up just after the shop was fired and saw a rifle being withdrawn from the fifth or sixth floor window of a nearby building so apparently it was uh caused by rifle fire here's another report the ram which just came in this this one says senator ralph yarborough of texas a democrat talking only a few minutes before we are now going to bring you an audio report that is a voice report from reporter bill lord in dallas come into the lord hello bill lord are you there come in please bill lord bill was at the other end of this phone a moment ago he has been at the sheriff's office apparently he had to leave the phone for some urgent announcement uh we had hoped to bring him to you now

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uh we had hoped to bring him to you now but apparently bill lord has left us we will bring you him to you as soon as he comes back to the phone now back you ron thank you ed senator ralph yarborough of texas talking only a few minutes before to newsman collapsed in sobs as he told of witnessing the slaying of the president senator yarborough said he was in the third car behind the president he said it seemed to me that at least two of the shots came from our right rear i cannot say about the third it seems impossible that there could have been more than one sniper but it seemed impossible to me that there could be even one considering the security precautions that are usually taken to recapitulate some of the information which we've already given you in case you may be joining us late president kennedy is dead he died in a hospital after being cut down by an assassin's bullet while his motorcade was moving along on the outskirts of dallas texas texas governor john connolly also was shot but there is no word up to this time on his fate there was a report that vice president johnson also had been wounded but this was denied by mrs johnson first word of the president's death came from two priests as they left parkland hospital's emergency ward where the president was taken their announcement brought audible sobs from a crowd of scores of newsmen and other citizens the confirmation of the president's death came quickly then shortly after that from washington there is no longer any doubt the president is dead the vice president himself vice president and soon to be president lyndon johnson is somewhere in the hospital but it's impossible to determine his precise whereabouts right at this time he's reported of course badly shocked by the shooting he was in the motorcade with the president doctors were trying to keep him as quiet as possible he was under heavy secret service and police protection

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police protection throughout the texas trip when kennedy and johnson had been in the same motorcade as an obvious security measure they had ridden in separate cars so that both of them would not be injured at once in the event of just such an occasion now we take you directly to dallas depository building i headed for there right after the shots and they weren't letting anyone pierce excuse me here we have our tape ready to roll you're here we are feeding now very good ladies and gentlemen from wfa tv in dallas what you're about to see is the first eyewitness report that we could line up this program went on the air in dallas texas approximately 10 minutes after the president was shot then after that we will have film that is completely unedited that was made and we frankly we do not know what's on the film so right now let's run the videotape of the program this morning with the eyewitness let's go about 10 or 15 minutes ago a tragic thing from all indications at this point has happened in the city of dallas let me quote to you this and i'll you'll excuse me if i am out of breath a bulletin this is from the united press from dallas president kennedy and governor john colony have been cut down by assassins bullets in downtown dallas they were riding an open automobile when the shots were fired the president his limp body carried in the arms of his wife jacqueline has rushed to parkland hospital uh and if you'll excuse me if i give some directions and we talk about what we're going to do here for the next few minutes but bobby let's tape this if you please particularly the interview with the eyewitness people it is being take good here's a piece of copy that was rushed so 2 million was torn off from the united press in dallas president kenny has been shot in dallas has been shot in dallas texas he was shot as a motorcade left downtown dallas mrs kennedy jumped up and grabbed the president she cried oh no as the motorcade sped on an associated press photographer james algins 8 ltgns reports he saw blood on the president's

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reports he saw blood on the president's head the ap man said he heard two shots but thought someone was shooting fireworks until he saw the blood on the president he also said he saw no one with a gun uh we were awfully close jerry haynes as you know mr peppermint we were awfully close to being an eyewitness we were standing on houston street between maine and the next street over jerry come in would you please uh and the next street over we watched the president come by and gave him the applaud that is due the office of the president of the united states and as he turned left two or three shots rang out we thought they were

firecrackers until i thought they did until the last shot rang out and we heard people screaming and we rushed over in time to see a policeman standing behind one of the fire poles looking around at fifth uh for some place to shoot someone to shoot at uh i'd like to remind you here that as the news comes into the newsroom we will be on the air we'll have our eyewitness people here in just a moment uh vicky would you see if they need some coffee or something these people are awfully shaken up they come after close they were in the line of fire jerry i remember jay you said i thought it was you know a uh fire firecracker or something like that and then they followed one shot and then a second or two later another shot and then another second third and third shot and you said the man's been shot at and we both turned no i said my god that's gunshot that's right and then we turned right over behind the mr uh statue right and he ran over to the cement wall and we saw people beginning to scatter in places and i believe our eyewitness was on the ground would you do me a favor would you go check in the newsroom now and as the men come in from the field or if they have stories uh please let me know and also get someone to check with we were supposed to take the feed from krld they may still be doing a feed from their check and let me know and until our news crew gets back in we will sort of use this studio uh as our headquarters these people and you will excuse me i don't want to interrupt you i'm so sorry because i know that you were so upset but i would like to talk to you for a minute it's a little bit awkward so

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little bit awkward so the camera shots will have to fall as they may i'm going to stand right here i have your name please sir billing and this is mrs newman and this is james clay james and this is bailey billy tell me what you saw and what you felt what happened to you we were we just come from the left foot after seeing the president and the first lady and we were just in front of the triple underpass on elm street and we're at the edge of the curve getting ready to wave at the president the president's car was some 50 feet still yeah in front of us coming towards us and we heard the first shot in the present i don't know who was hit first but the president jumped up in his seat and i thought it scared him i thought it was a firecracker because he looked you know fair and then as the car got directly in front of us with a gunshot apparently from behind us hit the president inside the side of the temple do you think the first gunshot came uh from behind you two i think it came from the same location that apparently back up on the uh uh mall i don't know what you call it for the benefit of nomenclature all you folks have gone out under the viaduct and as you turn going under the viaduct on the left-hand side there's some grass uh you should think the shot came from up on top of the vine i could target the president is that correct yes sir no not on the viadoc itself but up on top of the hill a little mound of ground in the garden how far away do you would you say that is from where the president was a couple three hundred yards something like that well i have no idea because i didn't see the where the gunshot come from we were looking directly at the president when he was hit and he was more or less directly in front of us and uh we didn't realize what happened until we seen the side of his head whenever the foot hit him in the head

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so that's what kind of work do you do sir i'm a construction worker electrician is this the uh is this the first time that uh that you have seen a president of the united states did you see when he was here in 1961 uh your housewife yes sir took the day off to come downtown and see the president yes sir we did we wanted our children to see it uh were you in the line of fire i noticed i i remember vividly whenever uh i walked over and looked over the banister there and saw across the street that you were down on the ground uh so that i had to keep out of the line of fire what was the first thought that struck your mind oh i thought it was a firecracker and i saw the blood and i i had the baby and i i just ran and we i got on top of him and laid on the grass i was he just scared me it was terrible did you see anyone else hit besides the uh um governor conley was kind of turned to the side and he grabbed his stomach like to remind you that this is jay watson i'm speaking to you in the studios of wfaa tv in dallas the tape that you just have witnessed was played back approximately 10 minutes on our station uh after the president was shot this afternoon in dallas uh the tape of the eyewitness there were others uh these the two people uh as you can see we were in a state of confusion there at the moment but at least we did have the eyewitness report for you in case you have tuned

in late government sources in washington say that president kennedy is dead he was shot at approximately 12 35 this afternoon in dallas texas the gentleman on my left and on your right is bert ship who is in charge of the photographers in our newsroom and bert uh you have some film just a minute

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bert uh you have some film just a minute bobby is the film ready to roll young hello no they're queuing up the film now that bert took at parkland hospital as i understand uh jay it's going to start out uh some brief scenes at the market hall okay are at trademark where the president was due to arrive it's about uh probably a mile from the scene of the uh downtown shooting and uh of course we had no word at market hall as to what went on downtown the film and it was a complete mystery the police didn't even know but we knew as you'll see about halfway through the film the police went on past the market hall area or trademark rather and and on it to parkland hospital bob whenever you're ready go ahead and roll let's see what we got excuse me uh oh this is a shot there we go here's market uh there's market hall trademart is right across the street from there they had a big welcome sign for the president there the corner of industrial and stemmons it uh says welcome jackie now this was the place where the president was supposed to make his speech here's some uh a gentleman carrying signs i guess you'd call them gentlemen they uh had these signs they were wasn't causing any trouble they were run off uh moments after this uh told that there was private property and they couldn't be around there and uh they wouldn't talk to us other than they said their signs spoke for themselves there's some the crowd 450 extra policemen called on duty everybody waited anxiously and waited and waited and waited there's a policeman ushering a fellow by the name of joyner from grand prairie back across the street the boys had their mouths taped up so they wouldn't be able to answer any questions now there's goes the president on up the hill there he's been this is after we found out there's something wrong and uh speeding past yeah and here's the

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speeding past yeah and here's the disappointed crowd left there at the trademark i went up on the the uh roadway there to ask some policemen here we go to the hospital there's uh homicide detectives in front of us there's parkland hospital there's the entrance police cars all over the place there is uh congressman wright is he's teary-eyed as you could imagine and there's the presidential limousine the secret service men shaking it over there's riot again right in your brother there's a secret service man is taking this type of a mattress or something out of the back of the car there there's chief curry he just couldn't believe it he'd put everything he had into this visit and gave the men all types of instruction they're inside of a car i don't know well that's must been conley's car there's some more shots of the everybody waiting expectantly at this time no one knew anything and there goes miss lincoln the president's press uh secretary inside and there's uh yarber again senator yarborough and he says the site was too gruesome to describe and there's a final parting shot from parkland the film of and the quality of the film of course you can understand uh and also the fact that was not edited this time is bob walker news director of wfaa television bob do you have some last minute items there uh uh just uh this that the vice president is on his way to washington where he will be uh sworn in the president's children on the second floor of the uh house and have not been told as yet that their father was killed and uh the white house news staff is under a state of complete uh white house staff i should say is under

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white house staff i should say is under a state of uh complete collapse uh first reports uh said that president kennedy was shot from an overpass uh our wfaa tv reporter mal couch saw the gun emerge from the upper story of the warehouse which has turned out to be the second floor of the texas book depository which is a familiar sign let me interrupt you here where this is jay watson and bob walker wfa tv in dallas let's switch now to abc in new york this is ron cochran at the abc news headquarters in new york just to recapitulate what most of you i'm sure already know by now president kennedy is dead the 35th president of the united states born may 29 1917 in boston the first catholic president ever elected he was also the youngest man ever

elected president he was the first american chief executive to face the possibility of nuclear warfare he risked it with a show of force to protect american interests later he succeeded in achieving an accord with russia limiting nuclear tests and that occurred only recently now we go to washington for a direct report from ed morgan this is edward p morgan in washington i have just come from the white house the president is dead the word came to the white house from a doctor in dallas the scene in the white house is a mixture of stunned disbelief anger and heartbreak i saw mcgeorge bundy the president's chief advisor on international security affairs his eyes were red rim he was silent he shook my hands in silence by coincidence i happened to have lunch with ralph dungan one of the other president one of the president's other top advisors we drove back to the white house together on our way back we saw lots of students at george washington university standing in the street listening to the horrible news on the radio when i got to the white

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on the radio when i got to the white house secretaries were sobbing audibly in the corridors charles horsky the president's advisor for district of columbia affairs was walking back and forth in the corridor with his hands beating his forehead hubert humphrey happened to be the at the lunch that dungan and i attended at the chilean embassy where we both got the news the senator's first reaction was one of high indignation and his audible reaction was unprintable he immediately went to the senate where the news had already been given there is no official spokesman ironically enough at the white house at this moment pierre salinger the president's press secretary is not in texas but at last reports was on the way in the air from honolulu to tokyo with secretary of state dean rusk at this moment it seems hardly the time and yet the inexorability of events make it necessary to report what the order of events is now vice president lyndon johnson will be the next president of the united states according to the processes of the law he must be sworn in as soon as possible calvin coolidge was sworn in in new england at midnight as i recall after warren harding had died in san francisco of blood poisoning harry truman was sworn in you may remember in washington in april 1945 after franklin d roosevelt had died of a stroke in warm springs georgia this news at this point has so stunned the capital that there is no rational progression of events nobody is thinking about much of anything except the indescribable incredible fact that the man who came out of fort worth with his customary pt boat vigor at seven o'clock this morning made two speeches in fort worth and then went on to dallas is now a man in his

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went on to dallas is now a man in his 46th year the youngest president of the united states ever to be elected as such the first roman catholic ever to be elected as such is dead this is edward p morgan in washington you got it new york this is ron cochran in the abc news headquarters in new york senators we're told crowded around two news tickers waiting for word of the shooting many of the senators remain slumped in their seats on the floor until senate democratic leaders called the senate back into session senator richard russell of georgia said the whole nation is shocked by this dastardly crime and after a 15-minute recess the senate returned and had the reverend frederick brown harris senate chaplain say a prayer the senate adjourned after the chaplain's prayer that president kennedy's life might be spared that of course was before word came that he had already died vice president johnson's office says it has no information to confirm rumors that johnson has been wounded in the shooting that however was an earlier word and evidently uh the vice president was not injured according to all the information we have we were told from dallas a few minutes ago that the vice president is already on his way back to washington possibly he is attempting to get back to the airport i doubt that he has had time to leave dallas in any event according to the best information we have vice president johnson will not take the oath of office as president until he returns to washington on the seventh floor of the hotel commodore here in new york where the democratic state committee has headquarters about a dozen women including members of the staff broke into tears all normal activities ceased in the hotel and in nearby office buildings they were crowded around radio and television sets as i'm sure millions of persons are all over the country by this time and incidentally you may have seen of

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and incidentally you may have seen of course a good deal of confusion in our reports quite naturally all of us in the television and radio industry were taken quite by surprise by this event obviously no one could possibly in his wildest dream have imagined that such a thing would happen the word came of course that the shooting had taken place uh during the normal lunch time here in new york and uh all of us at all the networks uh rushed back from uh wherever we were at the time and got on the air as quickly as possible and we are still operating under more or less emergency and impromptu conditions but we are staying on the air to bring you the news uh every bit of information as it comes to us from the wire services and from our own reporters in dallas and in washington we have just received word that assistant presidential press secretary malcolm kilduff confirms that johnson that is vice president johnson was not hit by the rifle fire the new president previously had been reported wounded so i think that there's no doubt now that lyndon johnson is all right he was not injured in the shooting mayor wagner in here in new york was at a uh a luncheon club when he received the news he reported he was watching the news of the shooting on television describe the event as a terrible thing we'll be receiving uh various uh comments by uh dignitaries and others all over the country the only thing of course that all of us can say at this time is that this was a shocking shocking thing something which no one could have imagined would happen and yet it has president kennedy was the first president to be assassinated since william mckinley was shot and that was in 1901 62 years ago and this is the first death of a president in office since

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of a president in office since franklin d roosevelt died of a cerebral hemorrhage at warm springs georgia in april 1945. there have been only uh i guess in this century only three other presidents have been shot at uh besides mckinley there was an attempt on the life of uh franklin d roosevelt in which mayor cermak of chicago was killed and there was an attempt on the life by a group of puerto rican nationalists in washington on the life of president truman while he was staying in warehouse at the time that the president that the white house was being rebuilt that was in 1950 two puerto rican nationalists tried to gun their way into blair house and assassinate mr truman who was taking a knack a nap at the time on the second floor one white house police officer was killed in that shooting and another seriously wounded one of the assassins was killed in a blaze of gunfire on pennsylvania avenue right across the street from the white house guarding the president of course obviously is a very hazardous occupation uh one of the secret service men with traveling with president kennedy was killed by the gunfire today we have not received word uh that any others were wounded governor john connolly of texas underwent an operation for the gunshot wound he was struck in the chest he was operated on at 2 30 p.m today his condition is said to be serious is not described as critical but serious the governor was not out of the woods according to the doctors they say that uh his vital the vital signs are good however the doctor said connelly governor connolly had a good pulse his respiration was satisfactory according to eyewitnesses governor connolly and president kennedy fell simultaneously we do not know of

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fell simultaneously we do not know of course at this time whether that indicates that they were both filled by the same bullet which was fired by a sniper according to our reporters in dallas someone saw uh the muzzle of a gun they emerged from a window in a warehouse building along a parade route or not far from the parade route we don't know how many shots were fired there were more than one possibly three or four do you have any uh further information ed silverman have you received any reports that we've got the phone open here ron that we have uh expectancy of a report from uh bob clark any moment he of course was traveling with the presidential party uh here's uh something just then it's a report out of washington across reporting that six members of president kennedy's cabinet were out of the country flying to japan when the president was killed today they were an hour and a half out of honolulu the secretaries were advised of the killing and of course they immediately turned back they're expected to speed directly back to washington now this party was on its way to a meeting with members of the japanese cabinet in the party on route where secretary of state rusk secretary of commerce hodges secretary of labor awards and secretary of the interior udall and secretary of agriculture freeman their wives accompanied them of course when they heard the

news they turned directly back i think it's uh it's fair to say that president kennedy's administration is perhaps one of the most traveling administrations uh of all time uh partly because of the availability of jet planes and therefore the relative ease of travel but also because it was uh part of the uh pattern of president kennedy's method of operating he liked to travel he liked to go to the scene where things were happening and to see and hear for himself and partly because of the president's

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and partly because of the president's own inclinations in those directions there was a great deal of traveling done by him and his staff but also he surrounded himself with people who who seem to like to travel and it is ironic that this event should occur at a time when the white house staff the official white house staff was largely depleted you heard earlier that pierre salinger the president's news secretary was on his way to tokyo and uh many of the other uh top ranking officials of the white house were not at their desks not even in washington so that this did perhaps slow up the transmission of news considering the president somewhat we have word that the russian news agency tas carried a flash on its international english language radio teletype circuit at 2 45 pm today the flash said it has just been officially announced that united states president john f kennedy has died in a hospital after an attempt was made on his life by persons as believed from among the extreme right wing elements the identity of the assassin or assassins we do not know whether it's more than one person the identity has not been established sheriff's officers in dallas took a young man into custody at the scene and questioned him behind closed doors we're told and a dallas television reporter said he saw a rifle being withdrawn from a window you heard that on our broadcast here a few minutes ago and he said it was on the fifth or sixth floor of an office building shortly after the gunfire kennedy was shot at 1 25 pm eastern standard time we go now to don goddard with me in the studio here is a man who spent eight years with uh as press secretary for president eisenhower and uh as uh used to the precautions taken by for the

00:38:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5Kz7-L2W78&t=2281s)

used to the precautions taken by for the president's safety and he is jim hegarty now vice president of uh abc paramount pictures jim uh what uh security measures would have been taken in this case well don whenever the president goes anyplace there is always an advance party of secret service men that go out into the area they work closely with the local municipal police with the sheriff's department in the county and with the state police uh they make the advance preparation yep during a motorcade uh where this uh terrible thing happened uh there is always uh the driver of the presidential car is a member of the secretary interrupt we'll get back to this we have a phone call from bob clark in dallas uh back to uh ron cochran stand by please thanks we were having a little technical disability all right bob yes we are on the air now bob would you give us a recap of all that you know please well first the president's body has just been taken to the parkland memorial hospital to a dallas funeral home the body in a sealed bronze basket was wheeled out of the emergency ward where the president has been since he was admitted to the hospital about an hour and a half ago mrs kennedy walked quietly by the side of the casket as it was placed in an ambulance waiting outside the hospital bob there have been reports that there was a possibility that mrs kennedy and mrs conley might have been wounded any uh were wounded there has been a still unconfirmed report that lyndon johnson suffered a heart attack uh sometime after the shooting uh the only thing i could add to this i was at the side of the president's limousine when the president's

00:40:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5Kz7-L2W78&t=2400s)

limousine when the president's body was lifted out of the car and placed on a stretcher and taken into the emergency ward at that uh time oddly the vice president appeared to be touching his chest he preceded the president into the hospital which seemed an unusual thing to do normally you would have expected that he would have stood at the side of the president so this might land some credence to the reports that the vice president may have suffered a heart attack is he now on route to washington uh we understand he is andrew to washington we have this further word from mrs johnson who left the hospital here about half an hour ago

uh said only one word when she was asked about the vice president and that was that he was fine has anyone uh seen mrs kennedy uh recently how is she taking is she in a state of shock if she investigation walked within a half dozen feet of me just three or four minutes ago as the president's body was taken out of the hospital uh i didn't get a clear look at her face obviously she is grief-driven at this stage but she was walking calmly uh on the by the side of the casket as it was carried out of the hospital and placed in an antler all right bob just to recap this would you give us the very latest that you have on the president and the situation there and some of the reaction there too uh i know it's been quite a shock to all well uh actually we have gotten a little official word from the white house uh we got the announcement uh something like a half an hour ago now that the president was dead there has still been no special uh words from the doctors who were in attendance it's known of course that the president was killed by one shot that struck him in the right temple i can recap briefly the the tragic chain of events the presidential motorcycle had just swept through downtown dallas the crowds couldn't have

00:42:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5Kz7-L2W78&t=2520s)

downtown dallas the crowds couldn't have been friendlier couldn't have been more cordial or more enthusiastic uh they were extremely large uh there must have been at least a 150 000 uh probably more than that along the route of the motorcade from love airport in dallas through downtown uh dallas the we had just rounded the corners at the fringe of the business district when three shots suddenly rang out but they uh they sounded at this uh stage like an automobile backfiring they were extremely loud i was in a car as a pool man for the american radio and television networks was in a car just three cars behind the president we heard uh the shots very clearly but it was almost inconceivable at that stage that this was uh an assassination uh about uh no more than two or three seconds elapsed before the uh the car that the president was traveling this was an open limousine that had been uh sent out from the white house fleet in washington uh this car came to an immediate stop the secret service uh follow car uh some of the agents piled out then almost leaped back in we saw uh one of them pull out a submachine gun they leaked back into the car and the motorcade took off very rapidly it had just entered a a freeway uh the motor case uh did something like 60 miles per hour uh to parkland memorial hospital which is some three or four miles away the car i was in uh kept up with the motorcade we were some 50 feet behind the car carrying the president when he entered the hospital ground we of course all doubted the car went immediately to the side of his car at that point the president was uh lying uh prone in the back seat of the car his head cradled by mrs kennedy

00:44:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5Kz7-L2W78&t=2642s)

his head cradled by mrs kennedy he was holding one hand over his head uh apparently he had uh he was absolutely motionless uh i think someone who was more experienced uh had this sort of uh disaster might have recognized immediately that the president uh had been mortally wounded uh i stood at the side of the car for some uh oh a minute or two while uh a stretcher was wheeled out during this period the president made no motion at all the first lady again sat rather holding his head then he was lifted by three or four secret service agent again with um mrs kennedy uh standing by actually pulling on to him during this period he was listed by the agent and placed on the stretcher wheeled immediately into the emergency ward of the hospital at this point governor connolly who has uh also of course been shot and is still in critical condition was lying sort of half stretched out in the front seat of this uh the same open ministry the only person besides the secret service agents in the car with the president for governor uh kennelly governor connolly uh and the first lady when the president was wheeled into the hospital governor conley was still uh playing again half stretched out on the front seat of the car uh i had i was surprised at this stage i had noticed while we were waiting for the stretcher to be wheeled up for um mr kenneth the vice president who had been traveling in a car behind the president uh it's gotten out and with someone by his side uh the vice president appears to be crushing his chest he walked into the hospital oh uh perhaps a minute or so but before mr kennedy was placed there have since of course been

00:46:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5Kz7-L2W78&t=2761s)

there have since of course been unconfirmed reports that the vice president has suffered a heart attack the from the time the president arrived at the hospital we went to almost an hour without any medical word at all the corridor uh where he had been wheeled into the emergency ward uh was closed off to all but uh secret service uh agents senator yarborough of texas who had also been in the uh procession and in the car with uh lindsen uh sat weeping quietly in a small hospital room off the corridor the secret service maintained extremely strict uh precautions during this stage no one and that meant absolutely no no one was permitted down the corridor within this to the uh emergency room where the president then lay the official word that the president uh was dead was uh this announcement was made in the lobby of the white house uh almost an hour after he had been shot uh the only development since that time and we have still had no further medical details from any of the doctors in attendance the only further development came just a few minutes ago when the president uh the bronze casket uh bearing the president's body was out of the hospital put his place all right bob we're going to do something rather than orthodox but the circumstances call for we want you to proceed to uh radio station tv station wfaa and give us your reports from there call us on our numbers just be under seven five thousand extension three eight five those are your instructions bob thank you very much for the report until we have somebody else here at the hospital or someone uh else development stuff i would not do that at this stage okay we'll abide by your decision bob you keep us posted anytime you have anything fresh give us a call we'll put

00:48:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5Kz7-L2W78&t=2880s)

anything fresh give us a call we'll put you on okay fine thank you that was bob clarkey on the air bob so we hear you uh thank you very much bob and we'll hear from you later that was bob clark in dallas let's go now to let's go now to don goddard uh with me here in the studio jim hegarty who spent eight years as press secretary of president eisenhower as you know and who had a hand in the planning of many motorcades like this to prevent the very thing the very greatest dread of the thing that has happened today jim is now vice president of abc uh jim uh what precautions normally would be taken and why did they break down in this case well i don't think they broke down uh there is always an advance secret service detail it goes to any city uh and works with the local police the sheriff's office uh the state police in uh protecting the line of routes so when a president of the united states or any official of our country is traveling in an open car you cannot guard every single window you cannot guard every single building so you have to go for a show of force uh an obvious show of police protection in an open car or in any car the president rides in the driver is a secret favorite man and the man in the front seat is the sacred visa the secret service man uh immediately uh following the presidential car there is at least one and sometimes two follow-up secret service cars uh the drivers of those cars are members of the secret service and uh the occupants are secret service and special assigned men from the municipal police force or the state police force or the sheriff's office uh i have seen many motorcades talk to many officials of law enforcement agencies throughout our country and around the world and each of them say the same thing uh that uh a rifle shot particularly from a window

00:50:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5Kz7-L2W78&t=3002s)

a rifle shot particularly from a window of a building is pretty tough to guard against uh but the president of the united states and a man in that office has to be completely faithless about his own welfare and clearly and and feel it and uh all of our presence i think have uh been that way uh the very fact that at least the suspect has been uh seized uh shows that the security was working to a certain point uh but uh this has happened the attempts have happened before uh and ron cochran has reported that the other events are uh in front of blair house in 1950 uh with president truman in miami with president-elect roosevelt but the thing that this one a little different than any others was that this was a rifle apparently used with a marksman in the past the only one other man outside of the puerto ricans who fired at a president and knew how to shoot a firearm was john will speak uh all of the other attempts on the lives of the president have by then by school balls who have fired a gun for the first time in their life at the president of the united states uh jim we now have some film of first film in dallas uh and we will go to our dallas newsroom for that jay watson and bob walker at wfa tv in dallas the abc news information center for this area the eyes of the nation and the hearts of the nation are with mrs kennedy today and the eyes of dallas texas are held in shame the we have a film available that

was excuse me bob go ahead may report this bulletin that a secret service agent and a dallas policeman were shot and killed here today they were shot some distance from the area where president kennedy was assassinated no other information immediately available from there except

00:52:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5Kz7-L2W78&t=3121s)

immediately available from there except one more point here that uh this uh secret service lieutenant eric kaminsky said the assassin's weapon appears to have been a high-powered army or japanese rifle of 25 caliber the entire building where the sniper was located was evacuated if we could get a picture of our map here and show somewhere of the building it was a it's a texas school bought a school book depository which means exactly what it says this is the car for the president was this is what we call our triple underpass in dallas this is the grassy area where and it was originally felt that the shots came from in here and now it's believed that the shots came from this building here we have a film now and by the way we have the the one of the men someone and i should say someone has been arrested in one of the downtown theaters uh they don't know if it was the man who shot the policeman or the person who actually shot president kennedy and governor connolly it's in our process it's being processed now we'll have that just as soon as possible right now we have an interview with an investigating officer so let's roll that film please the guy was this is the of course you realize that the film is unedited and this is one of the parts of the film without the the sound on it this film was made in

00:54:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5Kz7-L2W78&t=3241s)

the sound on it this film was made in one of the investigators offices here in dallas and we will have the interview in just a few moments i'd like to repeat that we will have some video tape later in the day of the president's arrival at love field in dallas at approximately 11 35 this morning and one hour later the president was shot uh this is film and sheriff bill becker's office sheriff sheriff of dallas county the the city of dallas well i know you're down okay sawyer i'm your position inspector please what is the story here now this is apparently the building that the assassin shot from this is the building that the witnesses said they had seen a man up there and some with a rifle and also we found some empty rifle show on the fifth floor so he would have been directly above us exactly above us indications were that he had been there for some time was the police department taking any precautions against such an incident we thought we had taken all of the precautions that were necessary but this particular building was not covered because there were a lot of other buildings but it stands now there is a suspect there were a witness there are witnesses who saw the man what did they see as far as the president and the government well several witnesses saw him slump over the president yeah and the governor and the governor yes you also understand the secret service management this i do not know i haven't received that how many policemen are there in the city of downtown we have approximately 1300 i would assume they're all out right now well yes uh bulletin here police have arrested a white man in the riverside section of fort worth in connection with the shooting of a dallas policeman the man has denied any connection with the assassin

00:56:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5Kz7-L2W78&t=3360s)

connection with the assassin assassination of president kennedy of course there'll be a lot of stories coming in like that everybody that's picked up here uh will be in some way or another connected we do not know at this moment in dallas uh from the latest word we've gotten from our reporters from the police chief and from the sheriff's department if any of the people arrested so far are actually the person who pulled the trigger it seems like that the building the building that the shot was fired from is a building used by the state of texas to store school books uh it's an old building a building that would be hard to cover it stands over the viaduct as the i guess there are 15 or 20 different places throughout the building that someone could be hiding to take a shot i don't know of any thing i'd like to speak here for the city of dallas we are ashamed at the moment we are stunned the whole world is done but at this moment i don't think anybody could be more stunned than the people who live in our city we have uh only a few weeks ago when adelaide stevenson was here and you're all familiar with the incidents that took place there and all of us were commenting this morning and all

of us for the last few days have been commenting that we hope nothing would happen to bring disgrace to dallas uh the messages are coming in to our newsroom from all over the state coming in from all over the world we will have uh how do we stand on our film bob have you been able to check be about six or eight minutes before we do have in the meantime let's show the videotape of the president we have the videotape of the president arriving this morning is accurate okay we are now cueing up the videotape of the president's arrival in dallas

00:58:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5Kz7-L2W78&t=3480s)

of the president's arrival in dallas this morning bob i couldn't help but uh i was at the airport broadcasting the uh the arrival couldn't help but mention how thrilled the crowds were that the president broke away from his uh normal routine and uh and rushed up to the fences and shook hands with hundreds of people estimate now somewhere between hundred and two thousand people that love field and i couldn't help but remark uh what great spirits he was in and his wife her texas reception thus far had been just wonderful uh better than suspected in houston perhaps not quite as good in san antonio i think above all expectations in fort worth uh this morning he had stepped out in the parking lot and talked to 8 000 people in fort worth and his wife wasn't along a few people were disappointed the president uh very jokingly remarked well it takes jackie a little longer to get prettied up than it does me and that's where she is now he told the crowd then he went inside and addressed the breakfast meeting over there at the texas hotel where they had spent the night and then came on into dallas and uh the dallas reception was was just tremendous at love field the crowds are roaring and cheering and and straining forward to get a good look at the president uh and then as he and his wife broke away and came up smiling to the fences walked all along that fence and now let's see it i think the videotape is ready of the president's arrival here this morning there he is he's uh waving at a lot of people smiling sleeper servicemen all around boy this is something they break right away and come right up to the fence and the people who waited all morning in this fence are rewarded with a glimpse and a lot of them with a close look and a handshake for the president of the united states and his wife

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